

[Will Owen]

WELSH SLATE WORKERS JORGON

Form A

Circumstances of Interview No. 1

Vermont

C. F. Derven

Poultney

August 23, 1938

Folklore

Welsh terms used in slate quarries of Poultney

1. Interview on August 23, 1938 about 8 p. m.
2. Main Street, Poultney, Vermont
3. Mr. Will Owen, Bentley Avenue, Poultney, Vermont
- 4.) none
- 5.)
6. I met Mr. Owen coming out of the Poultney Post Office, and during a conversation he gave me information about the subject in which I was interested.

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Form B— Personal History of Informant

Vermont

C. F. Derven

Poultney

August 23, 1938

Subject— Mr. Will Owen, Bentley Avenue, Poultney

1. Welsh ancestry
2. Born at Llanberis, North Wales, in 1886.
3. He is married, and has two children. One boy at Annapolis - and a daughter who is a secretary at Green Mountain Junior College. His mother still lives in Wales at his old home.
4. Has lived in Massachusetts and Vermont.
5. Studied to be a male nurse in Boston. Early education in Wales.
6. Quarryman
7. Knows a good deal about medicine, and the geology of slate. Interested in athletics from the spectator view-point. Mr. Owen is a man of medium height, lean, and strong in appearance. His face has the complexion of one that has been exposed to all sorts of weather. A kind, humorous expression shines from his eyes. He is very easy to talk with; and is a likeable person. His voice is rich, though subdued; and his speech is slow with well-chosen words. In the evening he usually walks up street to talk with old friends. His

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manner of walking leads one to believe that he has a calm, meditative mind which is at peace with itself and the world. I would call him a contented man.

Form C— Text of Interview No. L

Vermont

C. F. Derven

Poultney

August 23, 1938

Subject————- Welsh terms used by Welsh-American slate workers in the quarries near Poultney, Vermont.

Pebal— a joint that runs sideways

Crwb— a heat joint

Sclent— a fissure in between two beds

Cefn— a square joint

Cefntroed— (troed means “feet”) — a head joint and side joint running crisscross to a regular joint.

Cefncrwb— a square head joint

Pencrwb — Pen means “head”) — another term for head joint.

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Gwneith faen— known as “post” among quarrymen [md] shear zones which intersect cleavage planes diagonally and cause waste of slate. It is usually left untouched, and forms a ridge through the quarry. Gaffar ——- the boss.